

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

F A C T S H E E T

**APPROVAL OF A SOLE SOURCE CONSULTANT SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH
STARS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GROUP, INC.
FOR FISCAL YEARS 2008-09 THROUGH 2010-11
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request approval of a sole source Consultant Services Agreement with Stars Behavioral Health Group, Inc., to provide training, consultation, and technical assistance to support implementation of the Transition to Independence Process Model within selected Mental Health Services Act funded Transition Age Youth Full Service Partnership programs.

REQUEST

1. Approve and authorize the Director of Mental Health, or his designee, to prepare, sign, and execute a sole source Consultant Services Agreement (Agreement), with Stars Behavioral Health Group, Inc., (SBHG) to provide training, consultation, and technical assistance to support implementation of the Transition to Independence Process (TIP) Model, an Evidence-Based/Promising-Practice proprietary treatment model, within selected Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) directly-operated and contracted Transition Age Youth (TAY) Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs in keeping with the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan. The Total Compensation Amount (TCA) for this Agreement is \$363,788, fully funded by MHSA CSS funds for Fiscal Years (FY) 2008-09 through 2010-11. The Agreement will be effective upon Board approval and conclude June 30, 2011.
2. Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health, or his designees, to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to the Agreement and establish as a new TCA the aggregate of the original Agreement and all amendments provided that:
1) the County's payments to the contractor under this Agreement for each fiscal year do not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the last Board-approved TCA;
2) any such increase will be used to provide additional services or to reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) your Board has appropriated sufficient funds for all changes; 4) approval of County Counsel and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), or their designees, is obtained prior to any such Amendment; and 5)

County and contractor may, by written amendment, mutually agree to reduce programs or services without reference to the 20 percent limitation; and 6) the Director of Mental Health provides written notification to your Board within 30 days after execution of any amendment.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION

Board approval will authorize DMH to enter into a sole source consultant services agreement with SBHG to provide consultation, technical assistance, facilitation, guidance to program supervisors, in-depth case conferencing, training, and extensive access to resource materials in support of implementing the TIP Model within selected DMH directly-operated and contracted TAY FSP programs. The TIP Model is an Evidence-Based/Promising-Practice proprietary treatment model developed by the National Network on Youth Transition for Behavioral Health (NNYT) at the University of South Florida (USF). There are no other known Evidence-Based/Promising-Practice model, currently available that provide an integrated approach to achieving outcomes consistent with the State-approved outcomes for seriously emotionally disturbed (SED) TAY enrolled in FSP programs. The NNYT has established an agreement with SBHG to serve as the only entity in California that is authorized to serve as a NNYT partner and as a purveyor of the TIP Model.

Additionally, SBHG will train MHSA TAY FSP providers to achieve basic proficiency in the TIP Model, its principles, and core practices. SBHG will provide participating MHSA-TAY FSP providers with orientation to strategies for integrating the TIP Model with other evidence-based practices such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Aggression Replacement Therapy, and Co-Occurring Substance Abuse treatment models.

BACKGROUND

NNYT at USF, the TIP Model developer, has identified one sole source agency - SBHG, to disseminate the TIP Model, materials, and training statewide. The TIP Model works by assisting TAY with making a successful transition to adulthood and self-sufficiency through the achievement of personal goals and competencies in the transition domains of employment and career, education, living situation, personal adjustment, and community life functioning. The TIP Model provides a research-based intervention tool for TAY FSP providers to work toward the State-approved outcomes. Agencies participating in implementation of the TIP Model support the achievement of client goals through the use of transition facilitators, low caseloads, staff training and coaching, resource development, family involvement, partnering with relevant community agencies, building social support networks, youth voice and advocacy, housing support, and community resource mapping.

The TIP Model has been implemented in several states in the United States including Washington, Vermont, Oregon, New Hampshire, Illinois, Florida, and beginning in 2008 in Santa Clara County, California. The introduction of the TIP Model in Los Angeles County will support the development of the mental health system's capacity and expertise in providing for integration of services and supports across multiple transition domains for the SED TAY population.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

To comply with your Board's contracting policy requirements for sole source contracts, DMH notified your Board on February 2, 2009, of its intent to negotiate a sole source agreement with SBHG, to allow DMH to use the only agency licensed to train and disseminate information on the copyrighted TIP Model in California. The NNYT has established an agreement with SBHG to serve as the only entity in California that is authorized to serve as a NNYT partner and as a purveyor of the TIP model.

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